United Nations CCPR/C/SR.3488/Add.1

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Distr.: General
16 April 2018

Original: English

Human Rights Committee
122nd session

Summary record of the second part (public)* of the 3488th meeting
Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 6 April 2018, at 5 p.m.

Chair: Mr. Iwasawa

Contents

Adoption of the annual report to the General Assembly (*continued*)

Organizational and other matters, including the adoption of the report of the working group on individual communications

Announcement of Bureau decisions

Closure of the session

* The summary record (partial) of the first part (closed) of the meeting appears as document CCPR/C/SR.3488.

This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent within one week of the date of the present record to the Documents Management Section (DMS-DCM@un.org).

Any corrected records of the public meetings of the Committee at this session will be reissued for technical reasons after the end of the session.

GE.18-05493 (E) 160418 160418

1805493

Please recycle

The public part of the meeting was called to order at 5 p.m.

Adoption of the annual report to the General Assembly (*continued*)

Draft report of the Human Rights Committee on its 120th, 121st and 122nd sessions (*continued*)

1. **The Chair** invited the Committee to consider its report on its 120th, 121st and 122nd sessions section by section.

Paragraphs 1 to 49

2. *Paragraphs 1 to 49 were adopted, subject to the necessary amendments.*

Paragraphs 50 to 71

3. *Paragraphs 50 to 71 were adopted.*

Annex I

4. *Annex I was adopted.*

5. **The Chair** said he took it that the Committee wished to adopt the report, as a whole, subject to the amendments that had been agreed.

6. *The draft report of the Human Rights Committee on its 120th, 121st and 122nd sessions was adopted on that understanding.*

7. **Mr. de Frouville**, supported by **Mr. Ben Achour**, said that it was regrettable that, as suggested in paragraph 33 of the draft report, a number of important documents were not translated into the Committee's working languages. One such document, a report on the consideration by the Committee at its 117th, 118th and 119th sessions of communications received under the Optional Protocol, was available in English only.

8. **The Chair** said that he had often stressed the usefulness of the report in which the Committee's work on communications was summarized.

Organizational and other matters, including the adoption of the report of the working group on individual communications

Announcement of Bureau decisions

9. **Mr. Shany** said that the Bureau had developed guidelines on time limits to be adopted during the Committee's consideration of the reports of States parties. If Committee members did not object, the guidelines could be implemented starting at the Committee's 123rd session. He also encouraged Committee members to contribute to the work of the open-ended working group that the Bureau, together with the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, had set up with a view to preparing for the 2020 review of the effectiveness of the measures adopted in General Assembly resolution 68/268.

10. **Ms. Brands Kehris** said that although she welcomed the attention given by the Bureau to time management, she assumed that the proposed three-minute limit on questions could be relaxed in the event a Committee member had a particularly complex set of questions.

11. **The Chair** said that the limit would not be a straitjacket. Time for questions should be allocated according to the importance of the issues they addressed.

12. **Mr. de Frouville** said that Committee members had reached a consensus on the wording of a statement on the future composition of the Bureau.

13. **Mr. Fathalla** said that the statement read:

> The Committee agrees that in case of the vacancy of the Chair's post, the Vice-Chair, Mr. Yuval Shany, will preside over the remaining two sessions of 2018 and Mr. Mauro Politi will assume the post of Vice-Chair for the same period.

The Committee confirmed its practice of regional rotation for the Chair of the Committee. According to that practice, it will be the turn of the African group to nominate a Chair for 2019/2020.

Closure of the session

14. **The Chair** said that during the Committee's 122nd session, the reports of five States parties — El Salvador, Guatemala, Lebanon, Hungary and Norway — had been considered, and five sets of concluding observations had been adopted. The consideration of the initial report of Liberia had been postponed until the Committee's next session. Strikes by United Nations personnel had disrupted the Committee's work, its dialogue with the delegation of Lebanon in particular, but the flexibility of the delegation had made it possible to overcome the disruption. The concluding observations adopted by the Committee had been made public; unedited versions thereof were available for consultation on the Committee's website.

15. The Committee had adopted decisions on 41 individual communications during the session. Twenty-four cases had been decided on the merits, nine had been found admissible and five had been found inadmissible. Three had been discontinued. The Committee had found that there had been violations of the Covenant in 21 of the 24 cases decided on the merits.

16. Lists of issues had been adopted in relation to six countries — namely, Belize Botswana, Guinea, the Sudan, Tunisia and Uruguay. Follow-up reports on concluding observations and on Views had also been adopted. In addition, the Committee had continued its second reading of its general comment on the right to life (art. 6) and its review of its rules of procedure.

17. The Committee had discussed how resource limitations, which were covered in its annual report, affected its work on communications. A meeting had been held with Mr. Abdelmoula, Director of the Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division, to discuss ways of working together with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to address the challenges posed by those limitations and thus better promote the rights enshrined in the Covenant. He took it that Committee members wished to adopt the minutes of the four Bureau meetings, which had been circulated to members.

18. *It was so decided.*

19. **Mr. Shany**, joined by **Mr. Muhumuza**, said that as it was possible that Mr. Iwasawa, who could shortly be elected to a term of office as a member of the International Court of Justice, had presided over his final session of the Committee, he wished to acknowledge his extraordinary commitment to the Committee. Mr. Iwasawa, who was in his second term as Chair, had led discussions with patience, fairness and poise, and he had been a tireless champion of the Committee.

20. *Mr. Shany's words were met with acclamation.*

21. **The Chair** said that although he was grateful for the sentiments expressed by Mr. Shany and other Committee members, they were premature, as he had not yet won election to the International Court of Justice. He declared the 122nd session of the Human Rights Committee closed.

The meeting rose at 5.35 p.m.